

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) Method of operating a printing device, which comprises the following steps:

printing a calibration print by means of the printing device, the calibration print having a plurality of measuring areas each with different colour mixture relationships;

spectrophotometric measurement of the measuring areas, producing from the measurement results a colour profile, the spectrophotometric measurement being carried out at a plurality (N) of measuring times (T_n), wherein the measuring times (T_n) are chosen such that the time interval between successive measuring times increases with the time since the calibration print was printed out;

wherein said color profile is produced as an extended colour profile which comprises a description of the behaviour over time of the calibration print:

wherein the extended colour profile comprises a plurality of color profiles each being associated with a measuring time (T_n); and

setting the colour mixture relationships of the printing device on the basis of the extended colour profile.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim [[2]] 1, the plurality (N) of measuring times (T_n) being chosen such that the time interval between successive measuring times exhibits a logarithmic dependence on the time since the calibration print was printed out.

4. (Original) Method according to claim 3, a natural logarithmic function being chosen as the logarithmic dependence.

5. (Original) Method according to claim 1, wherein the colour profile extended by a description of the behaviour over time having the colour profiles produced at the individual measuring times (T_n) in each case with a time index which is greater the shorter the time since the calibration print was printed out.
6. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, further comprising determining additional colour profiles wherein before the setting of the colour mixture relationships by using the colour profiles associated with the individual measuring times (T_n) and belonging to the colour profile extended by a description of the behaviour over time, further colour profiles at times other than those actually measured being determined by extrapolation and/or interpolation.
7. (Original) Method according to claim 1, wherein colour mixture relationships of the printing device being set by using the extended colour profile in such a way that, after a specific time period has elapsed, predetermined colour values of the print are obtained.
8. (Original) Method according to claim 1, wherein the age of a print being determined by measuring a colour profile of the print and calculating the associated colour value by using the extended colour profile.
9. (Original) Method according to claim 1, wherein a colour inkjet printer being chosen as the printing device.

10. (Currently Amended) Printing device in which colour mixture relationships of the printing device can be set by means of a colour profile, said printing device comprising means for spectrophotometric measurement of measuring areas of a calibration print having a plurality of measuring areas with different colour mixture relationships for producing the colour profile,

the means for spectrophotometric measurement being designed such that the spectrophotometric measurement of the measuring areas can be carried out at a plurality (N) of measuring times (T_n), producing a colour profile which is extended by a description of the behaviour over time and which comprises a plurality of colour profiles each being associated with a measuring time (T_n), and such that the time interval between successive measuring times increases with the time since the calibration print was printed out; and

said colour mixture relationships of the printing device are being adjustable on the basis of the colour profile extended by a description of the behaviour over time.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) Printing device according to claim [[11]] 10, the means for spectrophotometric measurement being designed such that the time interval between successive measuring times exhibits a logarithmic dependence on the time since the calibration print was printed out.

13. (Original) Printing device according to claim 12, the logarithmic dependence being described by a natural logarithmic function.

14. (Original) Printing device according to claim 10, the printing device being a colour inkjet printer.

15. (Currently Amended) Printing device according to claim [[11]] 10, the printing device being a colour inkjet printer.
16. (Original) Printing device according to claim 12, the printing device being a colour inkjet printer.
17. (Original) Printing device according to claim 13, the printing device being a colour inkjet printer.
18. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the colour profile extended by a description of the behaviour over time having the colour profiles produced at the individual measuring times (T_n) in each case with a time index which is greater the shorter the time since the calibration print was printed out.
19. (Original) Method according to claim 3, wherein the colour profile extended by a description of the behaviour over time having the colour profiles produced at the individual measuring times (T_n) in each case with a time index which is greater the shorter the time since the calibration print was printed out.
20. (Original) Method according to claim 4, wherein the colour profile extended by a description of the behaviour over time having the colour profiles produced at the individual measuring times (T_n) in each case with a time index which is greater the shorter the time since the calibration print was printed out.

21. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim [[2]] 1, further comprising determining additional colour profiles wherein before the setting of the colour mixture relationships by using the colour profiles associated with the individual measuring times (T_n) and belonging to the colour profile extended by a description of the behaviour over time, further colour profiles at times other than those actually measured being determined by extrapolation and/or interpolation.

22. (Original) Method according to claim 3, wherein before the setting of the colour mixture relationships by using the colour profiles associated with the individual measuring times (T_n) and belonging to the colour profile extended by a description of the behaviour over time, further colour profiles at times other than those actually measured being determined by extrapolation and/or interpolation.

23. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 4, further comprising determining additional colour profiles wherein before the setting of the colour mixture relationships by using the colour profiles associated with the individual measuring times (T_n) and belonging to the colour profile extended by a description of the behaviour over time, further colour profiles at times other than those actually measured being determined by extrapolation and/or interpolation.

24. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 5, further comprising determining additional colour profiles wherein before the setting of the colour mixture relationships by using the colour profiles associated with the individual measuring times (T_n) and belonging to the colour profile extended by a description of the behaviour over time, further colour profiles at times other than those actually measured being determined by extrapolation and/or interpolation.

25. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein colour mixture relationships of the printing device being set by using the extended colour profile in such a way that, after a specific time period has elapsed, predetermined colour values of the print are obtained.

26. (Original) Method according to claim 3, wherein colour mixture relationships of the printing device being set by using the extended colour profile in such a way that, after a specific time period has elapsed, predetermined colour values of the print are obtained.

27. (Original) Method according to claim 4, wherein colour mixture relationships of the printing device being set by using the extended colour profile in such a way that, after a specific time period has elapsed, predetermined colour values of the print are obtained.

28. (Original) Method according to claim 5, wherein colour mixture relationships of the printing device being set by using the extended colour profile in such a way that, after a specific time period has elapsed, predetermined colour values of the print are obtained.

29. (Original) Method according to claim 6, wherein colour mixture relationships of the printing device being set by using the extended colour profile in such a way that, after a specific time period has elapsed, predetermined colour values of the print are obtained.

30. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the age of a print being determined by measuring a colour profile of the print and calculating the associated colour value by using the extended colour profile.

31. (Original) Method according to claim 3, wherein the age of a print being determined by measuring a colour profile of the print and calculating the associated colour value by using the extended colour profile.
32. (Original) Method according to claim 4, wherein the age of a print being determined by measuring a colour profile of the print and calculating the associated colour value by using the extended colour profile.
33. (Original) Method according to claim 5, wherein the age of a print being determined by measuring a colour profile of the print and calculating the associated colour value by using the extended colour profile.
34. (Original) Method according to claim 6, wherein the age of a print being determined by measuring a colour profile of the print and calculating the associated colour value by using the extended colour profile.
35. (Original) Method according to claim 7, wherein the age of a print being determined by measuring a colour profile of the print and calculating the associated colour value by using the extended colour profile.
36. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein a colour inkjet printer being chosen as the printing device.
37. (Original) Method according to claim 3, wherein a colour inkjet printer being chosen as the printing device.
38. (Original) Method according to claim 4, wherein a colour inkjet printer being chosen as the printing device.

39. (Original) Method according to claim 5, wherein a colour inkjet printer being chosen as the printing device.
40. (Original) Method according to claim 6, wherein a colour inkjet printer being chosen as the printing device.
41. (Original) Method according to claim 7, wherein a colour inkjet printer being chosen as the printing device.
42. (Original) Method according to claim 9, wherein a colour inkjet printer being chosen as the printing device.